

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-10. (cancelled)

11. (new) Tubing for the extracorporeal purification of the blood of a human being or a warm-blooded animal, comprising:

an open loop extracorporeal circulation conduit having two portions, a first portion for extracting the blood to be purified, and a second portion for returning the purified blood;

said portions adapted to be connected to purification means;

at least one conduit for connecting at least one of said portions to a source of a substitution solution;

a bubble trap located along said loop;

an evacuation conduit provided with a segment of tubing adapted to be connected to a peristaltic pump for evacuating into a recovery chamber product rejected by said purification means; and

connection means for removably connecting to each other respective ends of said open loop extracorporeal circulation tubing to form a closed loop;

said evacuation conduit comprising, downstream of said segment of tubing, a blood detector, a connection conduit

extending between the downstream end of said segment of tubing and said bubble trap.

12. (new) Tubing according to claim 11, further comprising a buffer reservoir located downstream of said purification means.

13. (new) Tubing according to claim 11, wherein said connection conduit comprises means for controlling the flow rate through said connection conduit.

14. (new) Tubing according to claim 11, wherein each of said portions of said circulation conduit is connected to said source of substitution solution.

15. (new) Tubing according to claim 11, wherein said conduit for connecting at least one of said portions of said circulation conduit to said source of substitution solution, comprises a junction and switching means for alternatively connecting said portion to at least two chambers for said solution.

16. (new) Method for the extracorporeal purification of blood, which comprises:

providing a circulation conduit having two portions, a first portion for extracting the blood to be purified, and a second portion for returning the purified blood;

said portions adapted to be connected to purification means;

at least one conduit for connecting at least one of said portions to a source of a substitution solution;

a bubble trap located along said loop;

an evacuation conduit provided with a segment of tubing adapted to be connected to a peristaltic pump for evacuating into a recovery chamber product rejected by said purification means;

connection means for removably connecting to each other respective ends of said open loop extracorporeal circulation tubing to form a closed loop;

said evacuation conduit comprising, downstream of said segment of tubing, a blood detector, a connection conduit extending between the downstream end of said segment of tubing and said bubble trap; and

circulating said blood in said closed circulation loop to evacuate air therefrom through said connection conduit.

17. (new) Method according to claim 16, further comprising actuating a blood extraction pump when a blood return pump is stopped, and until the pressure measured by a detector reaches or exceeds a predetermined threshold value.

18. (new) Method according to claim 17, further comprising connecting an inlet end of said circulation conduit to the source of substitution solution when blood purification is completed, and circulating said substitution solution to push

back blood contained in the circulation conduit through an other end of the open loop.

19. (new) Method according to claim 17, wherein the closed loop is filled during a preparation phase, with a disinfecting fluid until a predetermined mass of said fluid has circulated through said closed loop.

20. (new) Method according to claim 17, wherein the pumps are controlled until the circulation conduit and the source of substitution solution contain no more liquid.